



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

Rieping, Mechthild

Appl. No.: 10/733,776

Filed: December 12, 2003

For: **Process for the Fermentative Preparation
of L-Amino Acids Using Strains of the
Enterobacteriaceae Family**

Art Unit: 1652

Examiner: L. Odell

Atty. Dkt.: 7601/80921

Second Preliminary Amendment

Commissioner of Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Customer Service Window, **MS Amendment**
Randolph Building
401 Dulany Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In advance of prosecution, please amend the above-captioned application as described herein.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of the present document;

Remarks begin on page 7 of the present document.